

Editors' Comments

Dear Readers,

I begin this editorial with some exciting news: the *MIS Quarterly Executive* nomination for the 2015 AIS Senior Scholars Best Paper Awards was one of five to win the award. Congratulations to authors Gabriele Piccoli and Myle Ott for receiving this prestigious award for their September 2014 publication titled "Impact of Mobility on User-generated Content". The paper as well as a PowerPoint presentation based on the paper are available on the misqe.org website.

The first ICIS practice-based research track co-chaired by Martin Mocker and Huseyin Tanriverdi received over 40 submissions. In conjunction with the CIO symposium, the track accepted 8 papers for presentation and publication in the 2015 ICIS proceedings. The second HICSS minitrack on practice-based research featured 4 insightful case presentations, several of which are being revised for MISQE. Potential authors are encouraged to submit their preliminary work to either ICIS 2016 or HICSS 2017 as a way to get feedback and further develop their papers prior to submitting to MISQE.

With this March 2016 issue, we are offering PowerPoint presentations of each published paper. The presentations are created in a standardized template to hopefully make it straightforward for faculty to copy/paste various slides into a master presentation for MBA or EMBA courses. We have the presentations for March 2016 as well as for most of the 2015 issues available on the misqe.org website under the articles tab. Among our goals is to provide material that is useful in IS management classroom settings. We hope that the availability of these presentations will contribute toward that end.

This issue features three articles and the ever-popular annual SIM trends report. In the first article, "Managing IT Integration Risk in Acquisitions," by Stefan Henningsson from Copenhagen Business School and William Kettinger from the University of Memphis, the authors develop a framework for assessing the degree and type of IT integration risk in acquisitions. This paper was first accepted by the practice-based research minitrack of HICSS 2015 and presented at the conference where it won the

best paper award for the Organizational Systems and Technology track. The paper presents the experiences of a large company that is a serial acquirer. Through various low and high-risk acquisitions, the company has developed an expertise in IT integration following acquisitions.

In the second paper titled "Robotic Process Automation at Telefónica O2", authors Mary Lacity (University of Missouri-St. Louis) and Leslie Willcocks (London School of Economics and Political Science) delve into the very current topic of robotic process automation. They walk us through a case study of an organization in the UK that is an early adopter of RPA. Amazingly, the company saw an annual return on its investment in RPA of close to 200%.

The third paper, also a case study, is titled "How Deutsche Bank's IT Division Used Design Thinking to Achieve Customer Proximity." In this case paper, authors Christophe Vetterli, Falk Uebernickel, Walter Brennen, and Charles Petrie, all of the University of St Gallen, describe a customer-centric approach for integrating end customers in the innovation process. Referred to as design thinking, this approach brings the bank's IT closer to its customers.

Finally, this issue presents the results of the 2015 SIM IT Issues and Trends Study. Leon Kappelman (University of North Texas), Eph McLean (Georgia State University), Vess Johnson (University of the Incarnate Word), and Russell Torres (University of Mary Hardin-Baylor) find that IT leaders are spending twice as much time as in the previous year on business priorities and strategies and an increased frequency of interaction with their c-level counterparts.

In closing, MISQE would like to thank Alan Dennis for his long and dedicated service to MISQE as the MISQE publisher. Alan has done an incredible job managing the production and operation of the journal, including the budget, the subscriptions, the publication (in print and online) and the website. Alan will be missed! That said, we also extend a hearty welcome to Tony Gerth who, as of January 2016, has assumed the position of MISQE publisher.

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